

**A NEW SPECIES OF *GNAMPTOGENYS* ROGER OF THE *SULCATA* GROUP
(HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE) FROM BOLIVIA**

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Abstract.—*Gnamptogenys flava*, n. sp., was discovered in litter extractions from a montane evergreen forest in Bolivia. It is a yellow species of the *sulcata* group. The description of the species is included, as well as a modification of the previous key to the species and a discussion of characters that separate it from the other species in the *sulcata* group.

Resumen.—*Gnamptogenys flava*, n. sp., fué descubierta en extracciones de hojarasca en un bosque montañoso de Bolivia. Es una especie amarilla del grupo *sulcata*. Se presenta la descripción de la especie, como también la modificación de la clave previa para identificación de las especies, y una discusión de los caracteres que la separan de otras especies del grupo *sulcata*.

Key Words: *sulcata* group, montane evergreen forest, litter extraction, Bolivia

Gnamptogenys Roger is a genus of pre-deaceous, mostly Neotropical ants usually easily recognized by their costulate sculpture. The genus was revised recently by Latke (1990, 1991, 1994, 1995, 2002). A recent extraction of litter from the State of Cochabamba, Bolivia, yielded a new, yellow, moderately hairy species. Its mandibles are subtriangular, the anterior margin of the clypeus is nearly straight with angulate lateral corners, the promesonotal and metonotal sutures are developed poorly, and the sculpture of the body is completely longitudinally costulate.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Measurements were made with a micrometer in a Wild stereoscope. The abbreviations follow Latke (1990), with the addition of eye width.

HL Head Length: measured in full face

dorsal view, from the anterior clypeal margin to the posterior margin of the head.

ML Mandibular Length: measured in the same plane as HL, from the anterior clypeal margin to the apices of the mandibles.

SL Scape Length: length of first antennal segment, excluding basal condyle.

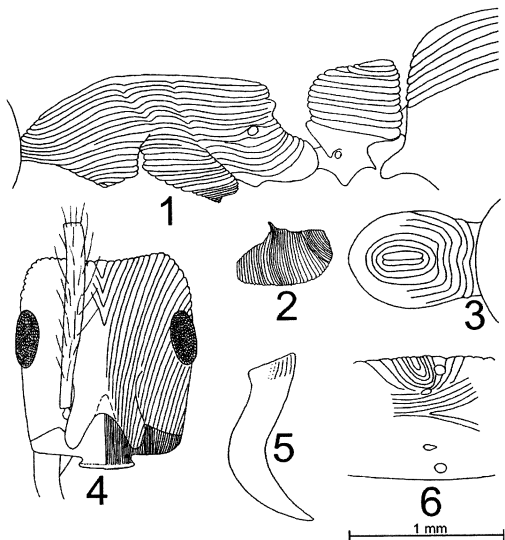
ED Eye Diameter: measured along long axis in lateral view.

EW Eye Width: measured along short axis in lateral view.

HW Head Width: maximum width of head, excluding eyes, measured in full face dorsal view.

WL Weber's Length of the mesosoma: diagonal length from the anterior, dorsal margin of the pronotum to the posterior margin of the metapleural lobe.

CI Cephalic Index: $HW/HL \times 100$.



Figs. 1-6. *Gnaptogenys flava*, holotype worker. 1, Mesosoma, petiole and postpetiole. 2, Metacoxa with metacoxal tooth. 3, Petiole as seen from above. 4, Frontal view of head. 5, Frontal view of mandible. 6, Propodeum as seen from above.

- rarely longitudinal; color variable, usually with brown and ferruginous areas, rarely totally brown or yellow; México to tropical South America 50a
- 50a(50). Metacoxal tooth vestigial or absent; propodeum without any evidence of spines or angles; usually a darker brown; México to tropical South America *sulcata* (Smith)
- Metacoxal tooth present; propodeum with small, epaulet angles; yellow; Bolivia *flava*, n. sp.

Gnaptogenys flava can be separated from *G. fernandezi* Latke (*fernandezi* complex of the *sulcata* subgroup), by the nearly straight anterior border of the clypeus, which is convex and somewhat pointed in *G. fernandezi*. The mandibles of *G. flava* are subtriangular and do not meet along the masticatory border; they are triangular and meet along the entire masticatory border in *G. fernandezi*.

It can be separated from members of the *sulcata* species complex by the presence of a well-developed metacoxal tooth, as well as angles on the propodeum (both lacking in *G. sulcata*) and yellow color (dark brown in *G. sulcata*). The distributions of the two species overlap. It differs from the Colombian species *G. curvoclypeata* Latke by the nearly straight anterior border of the clypeus, which is medially convex and laterally concave in *G. curvoclypeata*. It can be separated from the northern South American *G. acuminata* Emery by the petiolar node which is acutely pointed at its apex in *G. acuminata*, and by the metacoxal spine, which is lacking in *G. acuminata*. Also, *G. flava* can be separated from the northern South American *G. tortuolosa* Smith by the longitudinal costulate on the posterior face of the propodeum (transverse in *G. tortuolosa*), the presence of angles on the propodeum (absent in *G. tortuolosa*), and the posterior angle of the apex of the petiole not overhanging the vertical posterior faces (strongly overhanging the vertical, posterior face in *G. tortuolosa*).

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